

Updated January 2004



Fairfax County
**NEWCOMER'S
GUIDE**

Welcome!

www.fairfaxcounty.gov

Welcome, new residents!

- ◆ Fairfax County is the most populous county in Virginia, topping 1 million people, making the population larger than that of seven states (Alaska, Delaware, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont and Wyoming).
- ◆ Fairfax County, which covers 395 square miles, has 363,677 households with a median family income of \$95,600 as of 2002. The median market value of a single-family home in 2002 was \$332,627.
- ◆ Fairfax County is governed by a Board of Supervisors composed of 10 members; a chairman, elected at large, and one member from each of nine Supervisor districts, elected for four-year terms by the voters of the districts in which the members reside. The Board appoints a county executive to administer the county government, carrying out the policies established by the Board.
- ◆ Fairfax County's public school system is the largest in Virginia and the 12th largest in the nation. School Board members are elected for four-year terms by Fairfax County voters. Because the School Board doesn't have the power to tax or incur debt, the local operating costs of the school system are provided from federal and state government funds and by transfers from the county budget to the schools. Approximately 52.5 percent of each county tax dollar goes to schools.
- ◆ Out of approximately 32,000 counties and cities in the United States, Fairfax County is one of only 29 with three Triple A bond credit ratings — the highest credit rating possible. This means that the county's bonds always sell at lower interest rates, saving millions of dollars each time bonds are sold.
- ◆ Fairfax County is one of the safest counties of its size in the nation. It has fewer police officers per 1,000 residents than any other suburban area, yet it has one of the highest levels of police service at one of the lowest per capita costs in the D.C. area.
- ◆ Fairfax County has more than 21,000 acres of public parkland and operates more than 370 facilities. The Park Authority offers a tremendous variety of activities, natural environments and sports programs.
- ◆ Tysons Corner, located within the county, contains one of the largest concentrations of retail shopping on the East Coast outside of New York City.
- ◆ The Fairfax County Public Library was recently ranked one of the top ten library systems in America. It has 21 branches, 3 million items and had more than five million visits last year. For a branch near you, call 703-324-3100, TTY 703-324-8365, or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library.

Register to Vote

To be eligible to vote in Fairfax County, residents must be registered. To register you must be a U.S. citizen, a resident of Fairfax County and 18 years of age by the next general election.

Residents may register in person at the Office of the General Registrar, County Government Center, Suite 323. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 703-222-0776, TTY 711 for other registration sites.

Registration is also available by mail. To apply to vote or to update voter records, citizens may pick up registration forms at all Department of Motor Vehicles offices, public libraries, public assistance agency offices, offices of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the public information desk in the county Government Center and the information desk in the Jennings Judicial Center. A registration form can be downloaded from www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/eb/vregis.htm.

Residents who want to conduct a voter registration drive may call the General Registrar's office. For voter registration assistance, contact the Office of the General Registrar by telephone at 703-222-0776, TTY 711; by e-mail

at voting@fairfaxcounty.gov; by mail or in person at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 323, Fairfax, Virginia 22035-0081, or online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb.

Register Your Vehicle

Residents of Fairfax County are required to pay a personal property tax on motor vehicles and to purchase a county decal for each vehicle. Decals must be purchased within 60 days of moving into the county or buying a car. Generally, taxation is based on where the car is normally garaged, NOT where it is titled. The county's Department of Tax Administration will determine the taxable value of your vehicle from a recognized pricing guide.

All residents of Fairfax County, except residents of Clifton, Herndon and Vienna, must purchase a county decal from the county's Department of Tax Administration in the Fairfax County Government Center.

To purchase a decal, you need to have paid all prior years' personal property taxes.

To purchase a decal for the first time, you also need your vehicle's permanent or temporary state registration. For personal property and decal information call 703-222-8234, TTY 703-222-7594, or visit the Fairfax County Web page at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta.

Residents of Herndon and Vienna must purchase a town decal (available from respective town halls) and residents of Clifton a town tag (available from town clerk) instead of the county decal but are still required to file and pay personal property taxes to Fairfax County.

In addition, the commonwealth of Virginia requires all residents to have a Virginia driver's license in order to operate a vehicle. You also must have a Virginia title and register your vehicle within 30 days of moving into the state. If you are already a resident, you must register your vehicle immediately upon purchase.

For more information on State requirements, call the Department of Motor Vehicles at 1-866-368-5463, TTY 1-800-272-9268.

Enroll in County Schools

Newcomers to the county should call 703-329-9831, TTY 711, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., to find out which schools serve their home addresses. To enroll a student, one will need:

- ◆ The presence of a natural or adoptive parent (a photo ID may be requested).
- ◆ An original birth certificate.
- ◆ Proof of residency in Fairfax County, generally a lease or deed.
- ◆ A transfer slip or report card from the previous school.
- ◆ A certificate of a physical examination.
- ◆ Evidence of immunizations required by Virginia law (diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, measles, mumps, rubella are required for all students). Hepatitis B immunization is required for children born on or after January 1, 1994; chicken pox for children born after January 1, 1997.
- ◆ Evidence of a negative tuberculin test administered within the last 90 days or a normal chest x-ray for students who have resided in a foreign country (with the exception of Canada, Western Europe, Australia and New Zealand) for five months or more during the last three years.

Contact Central Student Registration, 703-876-5219, TTY 711, for enrollment of students whose home language is other than English or when the documents needed for school registration were issued in a foreign country.

Tuition is charged for students whose parents are not residents of Fairfax County. Contact Central Student Registration, 703-876-5219, TTY 711, for enrollment of nonresident students.

License your Dog

All dogs four months old and older must be licensed each year. Dog licenses, which go on sale in November for the coming year, may be purchased

by mail or in person at the Department of Tax Administration in the Government Center and the county Animal Shelter. The fee is \$10 for a fertile dog and \$5 for an infertile dog. A current rabies vaccination certificate must be shown. (Rabies vaccines are also required for all cats in the county that are four months of age or older.) Dogs must be kept on a leash when off the owner's property and are not permitted to foul others' lawns. Owners of more than two dogs must obtain clearance on the amount of acreage required from Zoning Administration (703-222-1082, TTY 711) before purchasing licenses. Information on acreage requirements for keeping other animals such as horses, livestock and fowl also may be obtained by calling Zoning Administration.

Recycle Your Trash

All county residents who receive curbside trash collection service either from the county or a private residential trash hauler are required to recycle newspaper, metal food and beverage cans, glass bottles and jars, scrap metal, brush and yard debris. Apartment/condominium complexes of 100 units or more are required to recycle newspaper only. In addition, commercial recycling is mandatory for certain businesses. You also can use one of the recycling drop-off centers located throughout the county for your recyclable materials. For further details, visit the county's Web site at www.fairfaxcounty.gov, click on Public Works and Utilities and then scroll to Recycling and Waste Reduction. You also can call the 24-hour Automated Recycling InfoLine at 703-324-5052, TTY 1-800-828-1120. Ask about Recycling's free literature.

Trash Collection

The Division of Solid Waste Collection and Recycling (DSWCR), or any one of over 20 private trash collectors, provide trash collection services to homeowners. A list of private trash haulers can be found on the county's Web site at www.fairfaxcounty.gov. Click on Public Works and Utilities and then scroll to Recycling and Waste Reduction, click on Residential Collection and then click on Private Haulers highlighted in the second

paragraph. Information on private trash haulers also is listed in the yellow pages of your telephone book under Rubbish and Garbage Removal. To find out which hauler services your home, contact your homeowner's association or call DSWCR at 703-802-3322, TTY 1-800-828-1120, and select option 0 to reach a Customer Service Specialist.

If you do not want to participate in the curbside collection of trash and recyclables, there are other options you may use. They include hauling your trash and recyclables to:

- ◆ Citizen disposal facilities located at the I-66 Transfer Station (Fairfax) or the I-95 Complex (Lorton); and
- ◆ The Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling Centers (in McLean or Great Falls only).

Fees are collected for the use of these facilities. For more information about the Citizen Disposal Facilities located at either the I-66 Transfer Station (Fairfax) or the I-95 Complex (Lorton), call 703-324-5052, TTY 1-800-828-1120, and select message 2. For information about the Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling Center Program, call 703-802-3322, TTY 1-800-828-1120, and select option 2, message 1.

Tax Relief

If you're elderly or disabled you may be eligible for tax relief from the county's real estate taxes, personal property taxes and decal fees. For more information on tax relief, call 703-222-8234, TTY 703-222-7594.

County Government

The public is encouraged to attend meetings of the Board of Supervisors. The Board meets an average of two Mondays per month beginning at 9 a.m. in the Board Auditorium of the county Government Center. To verify the meeting time, please check the Board agenda page on the county Web site at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board or call 703-324-3151, TTY 703-324-3903.

The agenda for each Board meeting is aired as part of the Fairfax County Government Cable Channel 16 bulletin board beginning the Friday before a meeting and continuing until the meeting begins. Channel 16 cablecasts the entire meeting on Mondays live. The morning session is replayed beginning at 8 p.m. the next day following the meeting and the entire meeting is replayed at 10 a.m. on Saturday of the meeting week. Consult your cable guide or call 703-324-5930, TTY 703-222-8653, for a complete Channel 16 schedule.

Citizens can access Board agendas and summaries of Board meetings online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov. Click on "Government."

To testify at public hearings before the Board of Supervisors, call the Office of the Clerk to the Board at 703-324-3151, TTY 703-324-3903, to be placed on the speakers list.

County Services

Simply call 703-324-INFO (4636), your information connection to Fairfax County, to access a library of brief, recorded messages providing information on county services, programs and civic responsibilities. More than 300 messages are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in many different categories ranging from animals to construction, to human services to taxes. A variety of informational pamphlets is available at all county public libraries, governmental centers, the Judicial Center lobby information desk and the information desk in the lobby of the Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax.

A large variety of information about county agencies and services also can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

The County's Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system allows residents to access information and conduct business anywhere there is a telephone. For a list of IVR telephone numbers, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/dit/ivr.htm.

County information is available on many multimedia information/transaction kiosks. The Community Resident Information Services (CRiS) kiosk is a regional kiosk program that provides volumes of information about services, commuting and

transportation, libraries and points of interest. In addition, the kiosks offer extensive business transaction (e-commerce) capabilities to include tax payment, traffic ticket payment, renewing vehicle registration, and also printing, subscriptions and phone contact with staff. Kiosks are located in many of the libraries, at the Fairfax County Government Center, Mason Governmental Center, South County Center, Pennino Building, Tysons-West Park Transit Station, Inova HealthPlex Springfield and the Town of Warrenton Library. For locations, call 703-324-4590, TTY 711.

InfoExpress kiosks, provided by Commuter Connections, offer regional information about traffic conditions, weather updates, maps and guides, match lists for car and van pooling, telework centers, cycling, walking and shopping. All CRiS information and transaction capability are also available on these kiosks, which are located at Tysons Corner Center, Springfield and Fair Oaks malls and at the Reston Town Center.

The Courts

Three Virginia courts serve county citizens. The Circuit Court and the General District Court are located in the Jennings Building in the county's Judicial Center, 4110 Chain Bridge Road in Fairfax. The Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court is located in the original "historic" county Courthouse, 4000 Chain Bridge Road in Fairfax. For general information on the General District, Small Claims, Circuit or Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts, call 703-691-7320, TTY 703-934-1296. If you are not sure which court you need, call 703-691-7320 and the directory will guide you.

Recreation and Leisure

The county Park Authority offers a multitude of recreational opportunities from recreation centers to historic and nature sites to classes and special events. For information, call 703-324-8700 or 703-324-8680, TTY 703-324-3988. The county Department of Community and Recreation Services also offers a variety of programs and activities. For information, call 703-324-4-FUN (703-324-4386), TTY 703-222-9693

Get to Know Your Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

Gerald E. Connolly, Chairman **Elected At-Large**

Fairfax County Government Center
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 530
Fairfax, VA 22035-0079
Phone: 703-324-2321, TTY 703-324-2319
Fax: 703-324-3955
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/bos/chair/default.asp
E-mail: chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov

Sharon Bulova, Vice Chairman **Braddock District**

Kings Park Library
9002 Burke Lake Road
Burke, VA 22015-1608
Phone: 703-425-9300, TTY 703-978-7973
Fax: 703-503-9583
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/bos/bd/homepage.htm
E-mail: braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov

Joan M. DuBois, Dranesville District

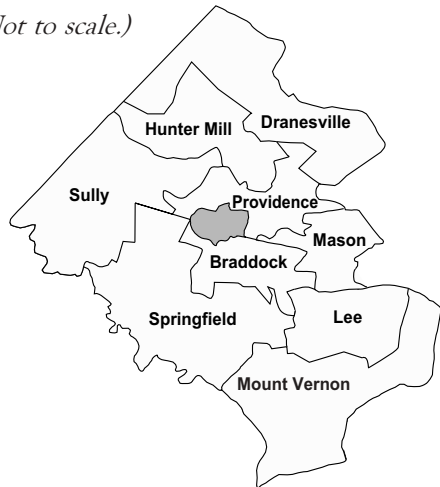
McLean Governmental Center
1437 Balls Hill Road
McLean, VA 22101-3415
Phone: 703-356-0551, TTY 711
Fax: 703-821-4275

Herndon Office
(staffed Mon. - Thur., 8 a.m. - noon only)

730 Elden Street
Herndon, VA 20170-4637
Phone: 703-471-5076, TTY 711
Fax: 703-437-3210

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/bos/dd/dd.htm
E-mail: dranesville@fairfaxcounty.gov

(Not to scale.)



Michael R. Frey, Sully District

Sully District Governmental Center
4900 Stonecroft Boulevard
Chantilly, VA 20151-3808
Phone: 703-814-7100, TTY 703-814-7109
Fax: 703-814-7110
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/bos/sud/sud.htm
E-mail: sully@fairfaxcounty.gov

Penelope A. Gross, Mason District

Mason District Governmental Center
6507 Columbia Pike
Annandale, VA 22003-2029
Phone: 703-256-7717, TTY 703-642-3540
Fax: 703-354-8419
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/bos/md/homepage.htm
E-mail: mason@fairfaxcounty.gov

Catherine Hudgins, Hunter Mill District

North County Governmental Center
12000 Bowman Towne Drive
Reston, VA 20190-3307
Phone: 703-478-0283, TTY 703-736-4460
Fax: 703-471-6847
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/bos/hm/homepage.htm
E-mail: hntmill@fairfaxcounty.gov

Gerry Hyland, Mount Vernon District
Mount Vernon Governmental Center
2511 Parkers Lane
Alexandria, VA 22306-2799
Phone: 703-780-7518, TTY 711
Fax: 703-780-1491
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/bos/mvd/mvd.htm
E-mail: mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov

Dana Kauffman, Lee District
Franconia Governmental Center
6121 Franconia Road
Alexandria, VA 22310-2508
Phone: 703-971-6262, TTY 711
Fax: 703-971-3032
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/bos/ld/ld.htm
E-mail: leedist@fairfaxcounty.gov

Elaine McConnell, Springfield District
West Springfield Governmental Center
6140 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA 22152-1579
Phone: 703-451-8873, TTY 703-455-6691
Fax: 703-451-3047
Fairfax County Government Center
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 233
Fairfax, VA 22035-0001
Phone: 703-324-2500, TTY 711
Fax: 703-324-3149
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/bos/spd/homepage.htm
E-mail: springfield@fairfaxcounty.gov

Linda Q. Smyth, Providence District
8739 Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22031-2198
Phone: 703-560-6946, TTY 703-207-9407
Fax: 703-207-3541
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/bos/pd/homepage.htm
E-mail: provdist@fairfaxcounty.gov

Emergency Phone Numbers

Police, Fire and Ambulance
Emergency 911
TTY 911

Police, Fire, and Ambulance
Non-emergency 703-691-2131
TTY 703-204-2264

Poison Control 202-625-3333
TTY 202-362-8563

Flooding 703-691-2131
TTY 703-204-2264

Sewer Line Breaks or
Emergencies 703-323-1211
TTY 703-239-8498

Fairfax County Hotline 703-817-7771
TTY 711

During emergency events, this phone is
staffed to provide updated information.

General Phone Numbers

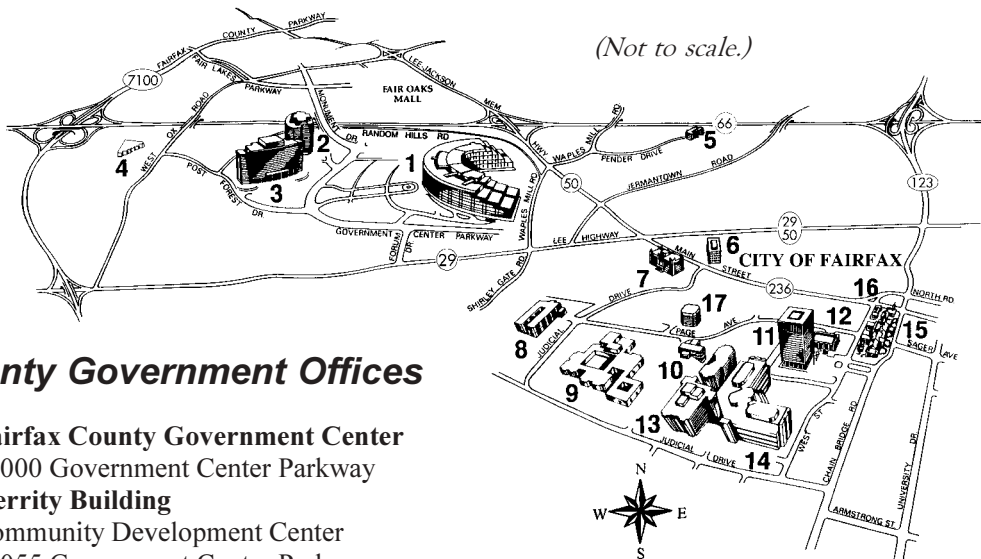
County information 703-324-3185
TTY 703-324-2935

Court information 703-691-7320
TTY 703-934-1296

School information 703-246-2502
TTY 703-934-1299

Tax information 703-222-8234
TTY 703-222-7594

Fairfax County Government listings are found
in the blue pages of the telephone directory. If
you are unable to find a listing for the office
you wish to reach, dial 703-324-3185, TTY 703-
324-2935, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Mon-
day through Friday. For 24-hour recorded infor-
mation, call 703-324-INFO (703-324-4636).



County Government Offices

- 1 Fairfax County Government Center**
12000 Government Center Parkway
- 2 Herrity Building**
Community Development Center
12055 Government Center Parkway
- 3 Pennino Building**
Human Services Center
12011 Government Center Parkway
- 4 Animal Shelter**
4500 West Ox Road
- 5 Housing and Community Development Department**
3700 Pender Drive
- 6 Retirement Office**
10680 Main Street
- 7 Health Department**
10777 Main Street
- 8 Burkholder Center/School Admin.**
10700 Page Avenue
- 9 Juvenile Detention Center**
10650 Page Avenue
- 10 Police Annex**
10600 Page Avenue
- 11 Public Safety Center**
(Massey Building)
4100 Chain Bridge Road
- 12 Massey Annex**
4080 Chain Bridge Road
- 13 Adult Detention Center**
10520 Judicial Drive
- 14 Jennings Building/Judicial Center**
4110 Chain Bridge Road
- 15 Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court**
4000 Chain Bridge Road
- 16 Old Jail**
10459 Main Street
- 17 City Square Building**
10640 Page Avenue
- 18 South County Govt. Center (not shown)**
8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria

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703-324-3187, TTY 703-324-2935
www.wopa@fairfaxcounty.gov

Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination in all county programs, services and activities. Special accommodations/alternative information formats will be provided upon request. Call 703-324-3187, TTY 703-324-2935.